/205 cont./

533 the opposite impression. In general, it is predominantly drawn-
[594] out and mournful. The Kirghiz /Kazak/ value the ability to sing and the "olengchi" (singers) live well, being invited as honored guests to every family and community festival and given
534 generous gifts for the pleasure they provide. Usually the performance of a song is accompanied by the playing of an instrument. Instruments that are widespread are the domra -- a kind of triangular balalaika with three strings (of sheep gut) -- and the

492
291
293
516

At the fair in Temir. (From a photograph by A. N. Chagin.)

534 kobza /illustration appears here/ -- an oval balalaika with a prop at the bottom (like a violoncello), which is played with a bow. Of the wind instruments one can mention the zurna, which is a long wooden horn.

531
286 Pictorial art also exists among the Kirghiz /Kazak/, being expressed in the coloring of figures and designs on the doors of yurts, vessels, saddles, etc., as well as in the weaving of various patterned woolen articles. This art is still on a low level of development.

128 We shall turn now to a more detailed description, first of the interior and then of the exterior everyday life of the Kirghiz /Kazak/.

342 /206 cont./
[286] grass (Lasiagrostis splendens), often beautifully woven with colored threads across it. This woven belt is also used in the
[283] yurt itself as a screen. When putting up the yurt, many different cords are used -- "arkan" /lassos/ -- among which the chief role is played by the "baskur," a woven woolen belt (up to two chetverts in width), which covers the upper circumference of the kerege, thereby giving stability and beauty to the yurt. The framework, which is completely made of the parts mentioned above, is covered with felt. Four rectangular pieces of felt are prepared -- "tuurlyk" -- which cover the kerege and lie on the lower part of the uka. Two trapezoidal parts, called "uzyuk," cover the "uka" up to the chengarak and cover the upper part of the tuurlyk. Six arkan, called "bau," are fastened to the uzyuk, by means of which it is drawn quite tight. Finally a rhomboid piece called "tyunduk" covers the chengarak. When this is opened, it takes the place of a window in the yurt and a chimney for the escape of smoke (the campfire is always laid under it). The door of the yurt faces northeast, in view of the predominance of southern and southwestern winds, and also is placed in the opposite "holy" direction (Mecca and Medina are
[289] located to the southwest). The best (white) felt is used on the
[531] yurt. Among the rich it is embroidered with colored threads and
[286] even with silk and lace trimming. The baskur is woven in
[531] beautiful designs, while the yesyk is also woven of chiy matting. All the wooden parts are painted, most frequently in yellow, brown, and blue.

[322] Special artisans, who are called uyge, prepare the wooden
[412] parts, and they do everything by means of a small hatchet (chapagot) and a small gimlet (uske). The felt is prepared by
[287] the women (usually of the whole village). They also usually
[462] put up the yurt. A good yurt costs up to 150 rubles, an ordinary
[435] one 80-100 rubles (in the Akmolinsk oblast).

/207/ The yurt described is not the only type, however. Besides it there are others that are used in special cases. Of these we shall mention the kosh, the dzholum-uy and the ablaycha. All of these are simplified versions of the yurt